

REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION

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September 9, 2003

FROM: **MICHAEL A. RAMOS**
District Attorney

SUBJECT: **PROCUREMENT OF BLOOD ANALYSIS SERVICES FROM BIO-TOX LABORATORIES.**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue a purchase order to Bio-Tox Laboratories in the amount of \$40,000 for the provision of blood analysis services for FY 2003-04.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: County Policy 11-05 requires Board of Supervisors approval for services exceeding \$25,000 per scope of work per department per vendor per fiscal year. The Office of the District Attorney pays for blood analysis services provided to the California Highway Patrol (CHP) for purposes of evidence collection in connection with California Vehicle Code violations. The evidence is collected by a qualified vendor and turned over to the CHP. The CHP provides the samples to Bio-Tox for analysis.

The service provided by Bio-Tox is specialized and very expensive to perform. The company is licensed by the State of California and each analyst is individually licensed. The only other provider of this service is the Department of Justice (DOJ). DOJ personnel are based in Sacramento. It is cumbersome and expensive to arrange for court testimony of DOJ staff. Bio-Tox staff are local so the department doesn't have to bear the additional travel expense. Riverside and San Diego Counties utilize Bio-Tox as does the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff's crime lab does not perform this service as the equipment is very expensive, OSHA and EPA regulation compliance issues are difficult to accommodate and training staff make it more cost effective to have Bio-Tox perform the analysis.

The department spent \$37,696 with this vendor in FY 02-03. It is estimated that \$40,000 will be needed to cover the costs of blood draw analysis in FY 2003-04. This action requests a purchase order in the amount of \$40,000 to pay for these services.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Scott M. Runyan, Deputy County Counsel) on August 25, 2003, the County Administrative Office (Mario Lara, Administrative Analyst) on August 26, 2003 and the Purchasing Department (Aurelio De La Torre, Director) on August 26, 2003.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Blood draw analysis expenditures are anticipated and included in the department's adopted FY 2003-04 budget.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): ALL

PRESENTER: James B. Hackleman, Assistant District Attorney (909) 387-6601

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors

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